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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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August 3, 2001

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INDEPENDENT

The Honorable Dan Burton  
Chairman  
Committee on Government Reform  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Burton:

I am in receipt of a subpoena to the William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation and draft subpoenas to James H. Levin and Bank of America, all of which seek records relating to allegations made by Peter Paul and broadcast on ABC's *20/20*. The subpoena is inappropriate because it continues this Committee's seemingly endless investigations of the Clintons. It also violates your previous policy against investigating allegations involving members of Congress.

Peter Paul is a convicted felon and international fugitive now apparently represented by Larry Klayman of Judicial Watch. According to news reports, Mr. Paul alleges that he gave more than \$1.5 million in direct and in-kind contributions to Hillary Rodham Clinton's Senate campaign in exchange for a presidential pardon. Mr. Paul never received a pardon and is reportedly suing the Clintons in California state court. Mr. Paul has also reportedly asked the Federal Election Commission to investigate what he described as Mrs. Clinton's "false and misleading" FEC campaign reports. After Mr. Paul's allegations appeared on *20/20* and elsewhere, the Committee began an investigation and issued another subpoena.

This subpoena conflicts with your own stated policy against investigating allegations against other members of Congress. You may recall that in May 2000, you agreed in a public hearing to issue a subpoena for certain FBI records relating to alleged criminal violations by Rep. Tom DeLay. After the hearing, you reneged on this public promise because you had "made a determination that this Committee should leave allegations against Members of Congress to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct." You went on to write that:

The Honorable Dan Burton

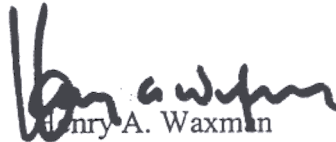
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As you are aware, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct is a bipartisan committee, made up of equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats, and it has special rules to pursue such investigations. Pursuing such investigations outside of this framework opens the door to political abuses. While there have certainly been instances of Justice Department investigations of Democratic Members of Congress that have merited scrutiny, I have declined to do so because I do not believe that it is the proper role of this Committee.<sup>1</sup>

You have apparently taken the position that it is inappropriate to investigate allegations against Republican members of Congress but perfectly proper to investigate allegations against Democratic members of Congress. I urge you to issue the subpoena for Mr. DeLay's records, as you previously promised to do, or withdraw this most recent subpoena, which clearly targets Senator Clinton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Henry A. Waxman". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Minority Member

cc: Members of the Committee on Government Reform

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<sup>1</sup>Letter from Chairman Dan Burton to Rep. Henry A. Waxman (May 11, 2000).